

THE POINT

ISSUE #5 WEEK OF OCTOBER 18, 2000



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STUDENT HEALTH INSURANCE REBUTTAL

This rebuttal is being submitted to the Editor-In-Chief, Mr. James Sposato with regard to his Letter to the Editor in the September 27th edition of The Point. The title *Students Left Uncovered* is totally false because our student health insurance coverage becomes effective, prior to establishing a roster of students interested in obtaining insurance, before classes have actually been attended, and before tuition or insurance payment has been made. What other insurance allows you the luxury of "thinking about it" and covering you in the meantime?

The student is somewhat correct with regard to the timeliness of rosters being sent to the insurance company in past years. This has been on going since the insurance kicks in at 12:01 a.m. on August 1st and the tuition bills were not due for payment until August 6th! We do not know who our students are, let alone who needs insurance coverage, until tuition payments are actually made.

In the past rosters were sent out very late because we wanted to submit as accurate a list as possible and, therefore, we waited until the waiver forms were submitted. However, this year, the insurance company devised a new system that allowed us to submit an initial roster, followed by three add/drop rosters before they considered the list final. Therefore, we sent our first roster of enrollees to the agent for this year on August 11, 2000 (considerably earlier than previous years) and only one week after the tuition payments were made!

Any student in need of obtaining a prescription between August 1st and our ability to provide the insurance company with the initial roster (that is used to input data into the pharmacies computer banks) were told that they could pay for the prescription up front and turn in a claim form (that can be obtained in Health Services), or get an emergency loan from our office, reimbursing us when they receive payment after submitting their claim form to the insurance agency.

His statement that taking out an emergency loan would incur interest is also totally inaccurate as Emergency Loans are payable within 60 days, however, no interest is ever charged no matter when payment is made. It is unfortunate that Mr. Sposato bounced checks because the penalties for doing so are outrageous but if he chose to write a bad check over obtaining an interest free loan that was his decision.

To make this more interesting, I want to say that his name appeared on the first roster that went to the insurance company on 8/11/00, but he was removed when the second update went in on 8/29/00.

I have checked with Health Services and the reason Mr. Sposato was removed from our insurance roster is because he turned in a waiver form on August 10, 2000 stating he had coverage with Tuft's Health Plan. I also have checked with our insurance agency and they have rejected payment of a bill for services obtained by him on August 7, 2000. His coverage ceased at midnight on July 31st because payment for health insurance for this academic year was not made but waived when he submitted the form on 8/10/00.

So his statement 'betting dollars to doughnuts that his doctor's bill will be rejected' by our insurance agent is accurate... because he is not covered by the college's health plan. Since he waived the insurance he also is not entitled to prescriptions so why does he feel the college owes him for the bounced checks?

He has asked other students to come forward with their legitimate gripes...I'm not so sure his gripe is completely legitimate.

Kathy Gillberg

[Despite Ms. Gillberg's spin on the situation, I waived my insurance after discovering I was not covered; not the other way around. The August 7th claim was filed by my doctor's office before I informed them of the change. I still have to pay it out of pocket, even though "covered" by the school insurance at the time. Ed.]

KING OF THE ANTS

by Shad Mosher

I should have been the king of ants. I would sit there on my throne of gravel and the ants would gather around me. Shad, the ant deity, awaiting my hapless victims. Victims of the boy who did not know himself as what he really was.

I would sit on the driveway under the warm summer afternoon sun. My wicked shadow cast upon the ground. The way the ants seemed to gather around me, led me to believe I had power over them. I would pluck them up from their daily missions and place them in my divine plastic bucket. The ants did not mind; they wanted and needed me.

Sometimes I would torture the little ants. I would pick them up, hold them up at eye level, watching them as they hopelessly tried to bite through the skin of my young fingers. For this, I would punish them. "No ant shall bite the King of Ants" I would roar.

Slowly I would pluck each little leg off, tossing it remorselessly to the side. Soon the only leg left would be the one between my fingers. I would drop this little exmple of insubordination into the bucket for the others to see.

Looming above, I would watch this creature do his macabre, one legged dance of death. It was an entertaining little jig. Although I knew the ant was futilely trying to run, he wound up going in circles. Was he desperately dragging his soon to be dead carcass to a dashing escape, or was he trying to find a nice secluded place to die? All his so-called comrades climbing were over him trying to find the way out to

get back to work. I was surprised they could be so very cruelly apathetic toward one of their own kin.

So there I would sit, entertaining the cruel side of my human nature underneath the gnarled old oak tree of my parent's house. Maybe you would look at me and think that I was sick. Or maybe you would laugh and think of the times when you have done the same.

Years have passed and having grown, I came to the conclusion that everybody has their own little kingdoms. People abuse their lovers, their families, their friends, their co-workers. So a young lad at a tender age of eight, gruesomely tearing the limbs off of the poor unsuspecting ants seems to be a good comparison of our civilization.

Our society is an endless string of boys and ants, abusers and victims. Companies have their faithfully underpaid employees to torture; corporate downsizing tearing a leg off. Moving on, there is the medical industry, they charge an arm and a leg.

Rip goes another due to the way that we handle world hunger even though there is an abundance of food to go around. Let's not stop there, let's rip each others legs off over morals and religion; we can tear a few more limbs off over imaginary borderlines.

And our military personel ordered to deaths by politicians who in turn are ordered by multi-national corporations trying to protect their profit margins. Sometimes abuse seems to be the very cornerstone of our society.

So tell me gentle reader, who are your ants?

RUTH BUTLER AWARD

Ruth Butler Achievement Grant applications are now available from the Grant center. These awards are given in honor of the late Professor Ruth Butler, of the Mathematics Department. Grants are awarded to promote professional activities, artistic development or other activities that are appropriate to furthering the goals of Fitchburg State College. Grants are typically awarded to full-time members of the faculty, administration and student body; however, if the grants used are less than the funds available, then part-timers become considered for grants.

Applicants must submit a completed application form together with a resume or curriculum vita to the Grant Center by 4:00 PM Friday, October 20, 2000. Application can be obtained from the Grant Center, located in Room 115 of Thompson Hall, or from their website, www.fsc.edu/grantctr_ruth_butler.html.

Get in touch with your inner Dwight Frye

Hands on research opportunities in state-of-the-art national laboratories across the country as well as tuition funding are available to students and faculty through the science and engineering education programs administered by the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE).

ORISE administers approximately 100 internship, fellowship, scholarship, and research participation programs for multiple federal agencies, including the Department of Energy, the Department of Defense, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the National Institutes of Health, and the Environmental Protection Agency.

Most appointments are for eight to ten weeks during the summer; however, several academic-year, semester, and year-round opportunities are offered. Some sabbaticals are also available to faculty as well as funding for on-campus research.

Stipends and travel allowances are included for most research participation programs. For fellowships and scholarships, tuition and fees we also covered. Some programs also include travel to and from professional meetings as well as dislocation/moving allowances.

To learn more about these opportunities, visit the ORISE Educational Opportunities Web page at <http://www.ornl.gov/orise/educ.htm>. Each listing details eligibility requirements, disciplines, locations, deadlines, benefits, and contact names/numbers.

This information is also included in ORISE's Catalog of Education and Training Programs. You may request a hard copy of this catalog by contacting Maggie West at westm@ornl.gov or (865) 576-3424 or download the PDF version from the Web site.

The Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education was established by the U.S. Department of Energy to undertake national and international programs in education, training, health, and the environment. ORISE and its programs are operated by Oak Ridge Associated Universities (ORAU) through a contract with the U.S. Department of Energy. Established in 1946, ORAU is a consortium of 86 colleges and universities.

ORISE to the challenge

Undergraduates and graduates have new opportunities to participate in the cutting-edge global change research sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE).

The Global Change Education Program (GCEP) consists of three components: (1) the Summer Undergraduate Research Experience (SURE), (2) the Graduate Research Environmental Fellowships (GREF), and (3) the Significant Opportunities in Atmospheric Research and Science (SOARS) program.

The primary goal of GCEP is to involve undergraduate students at the end of their sophomore or junior year in DOE-supported global change research, and then continue this experience during subsequent undergraduate summers. Both SURE and SOARS are designed to support individual undergraduate students during multiple years. To further improve the quality of emerging scientists in disciplines related to global change research, SURE and SOARS students will be encouraged to apply for GREF graduate Fellowships and postdoctoral study programs.

The ten week SURF program was initiated in June 1999 and allows participants to work alongside a mentor at a DOE facility. The program targets undergraduates in their sophomore and junior years, but outstanding freshman applicants will also be considered. Participants are given travel and housing support, as well as a weekly stipend during the ten week program. Successful participants in SURF 2001 were expected to reapply for subsequent year(s) of research, when possible.

The GREF project also began in June 1999. This project supports graduate students in collaborative global change research involving universities and national laboratories. The fellowships, renewable for up to three years, support doctoral candidates in various global change research areas. Fellowships include transportation and housing for the GREF 2001 activities, tuition at the college or university attended, and a support stipend for the year.

Applicants should have completed their first year in graduate school, unless they have participated previously in SOARS or SURE undergraduate

fellowship programs.

Significant Opportunities in Atmospheric Research and Science is a four year undergraduate and graduate program for students pursuing careers in the atmospheric and related sciences. This project is dedicated to increasing the number of African American, American Indian/Alaska Native, and Hispanic/Latino students enrolled in master's and doctoral degree programs in atmospheric and related sciences. To reach this goal, SOARS offers educational and research opportunities, mentoring, career counseling and guidance, and financial support for students accepted into graduate-level programs.

Global change research encompasses a wide variety of study areas, including atmospheric sciences, ecology, global carbon cycles, climatology, and terrestrial processes. Other studies address integrated assessments, predictions, and policy, as well as paleoclimatology and earth system processes.

The deadline for applications is February 1, 2001. For complete informa-

tion and applications, visit the program's home page at <http://www.atmos.ornl.gov/GCEP/>, or contact Mary Kinney, Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education, Science and Engineering Education, P.O. Box 117, MS 36, Oak Ridge, Tenn., 37831-0117; telephone (865) 576-9655; e-mail (kinneym@ornl.gov).

DOE's Office of Biological and Environmental Research established the GCEP to promote undergraduate and graduate training in global change research activities. The program is administered by the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE).

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Changing of the Guard

by James Vigeant

For years students at Fitchburg State College have had few ways to protect themselves and their college community. Now, things have changed. The Student Escort Service has become the Student Security Unit.

In the past, the Student Escort Service, according to Mathew Villamaino, a retired veteran of this branch from before and after the changeover, was just that, an escort service. "We would be in contact with the campus police and whenever someone wanted an escort from an on campus location to another, or even if they were going to an off campus location, we would meet them at the place they called from and simply escort them to their destination," Villamaino

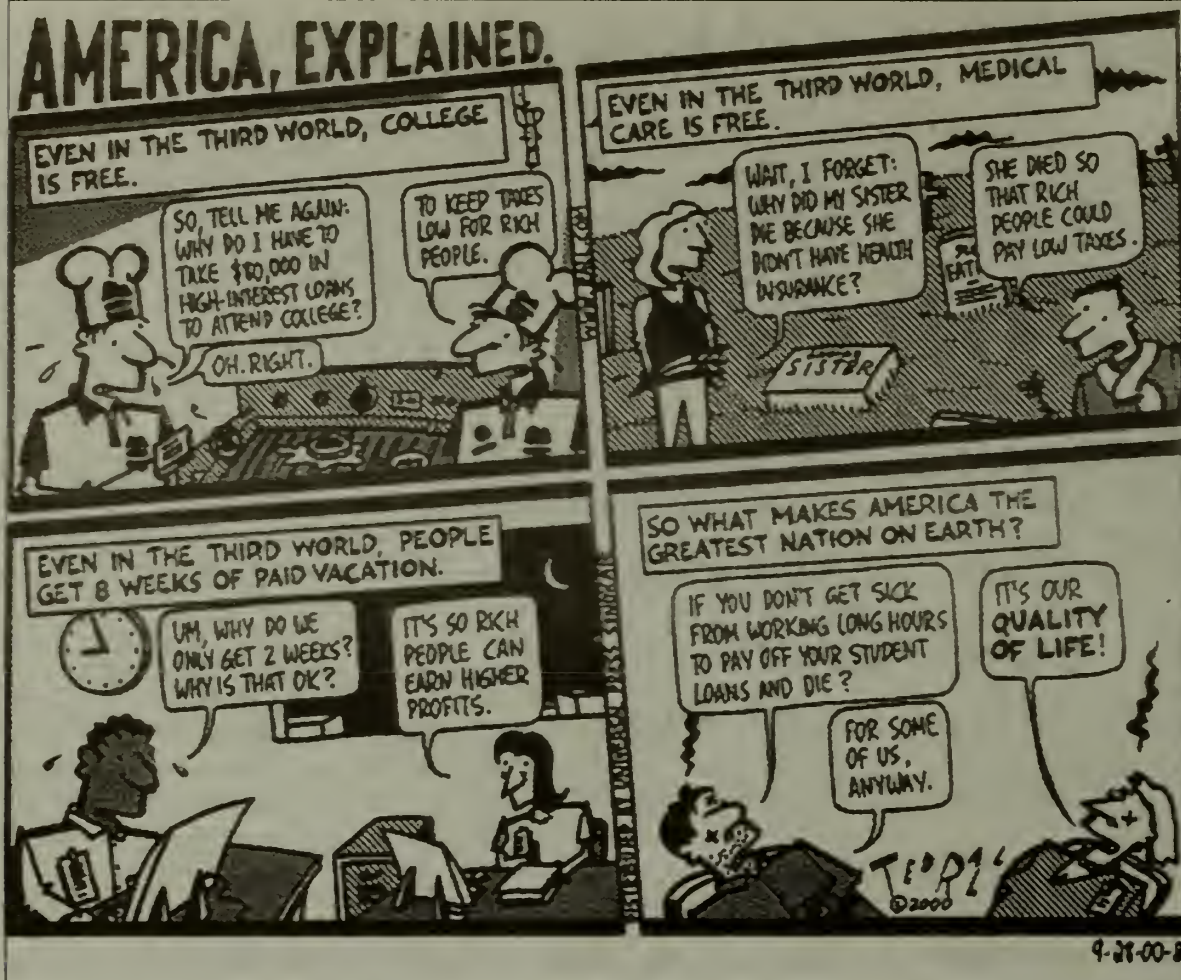
When Campus Police officers Nicholas Holden and Brim Lewos, now members of other law enforcement organizations, started the Student Security Unit they modeled it after a similar unit at Westfield State College. "It was great," Villamaino remarked. "We were given more responsibilities. We actually felt like we were making a difference in keeping the campus a safe environments."

"We were no longer limited to just walking around checking call boxes," Villamaino continued. "We were back up crowd control. We did building checks. We even helped patrol special events on Campus. And just like the other officers," Villamaino added, "we had to keep a log detailing the activity of our entire shift."

According to Campus Police officer Bill Mayrose, the Student Security Unit, like the escorts of old, has one primary function. "They are an extra set of eyes and ears." The Student Security Unit, also like the escorts of old, is in constant radio communication with the Campus Police Headquarters.

The SSU is still responsible for student escorts, but now, by virtue of new uniforms, more extensive training, such as first responder certification, and a more rigid structure of duty, the SSU acts as a criminal deterrent. With Community Policing being so high on the Campus Police priority list, the SSU has become the perfect liaison between the student population and the Campus Police.

AMERICA, EXPLAINED.



And the geek shall inherit the earth

by James Vigeant

To those who see him in class, he is Keith. To those who see him in their room to fix their computer while working for FSC's Management Information Systems (MIS) Department, he is a life-saver.

To those who know Keith Survell, he is logical, intelligent and stubborn, similar to the computers that he has such a way with. Many a time has a computer been thought dead only to be resurrected by this technical wizard; and his reputation proceeds him. Unfortunately it sometimes supercedes him also.

"Sometimes it seems like people only want to talk to me when their computer is broken. I could go for weeks without hearing from some relatives and 'friends' until their computer stops working right. Then, I am the one they call looking for help," Keith explained.

"Don't get me wrong it pays off sometimes; really well in fact," he said in reference to his new job at Acme Computing in downtown Fitchburg. "It's something I love to do. I've been playing with computers for several years. It was something I always dreamed about when I was a little kid

growing up, watching Star Wars," he said with a phony stressed expression.

"It's not just computers either," he said with a smile as he showed me the entertainment center. "it's electronics in general. Stuff that keeps you entertained, like the 'tower of power.'" The 'tower of power' is the ultimate procrastination aide. A television, a VCR, a five-disk CD player, seven different video game systems, all connected through a surround-sound stereo system. "We can play Super Mario Brothers in surround sound," he said with pride.

When asked what it was that got him into computers and electronics, Keith took on a serious note. "I always wanted to feel important," he said. "I liked what I was doing and I liked how the knowledge made me feel important."

Obviously, when even some of his professors ask him for technical assistance, and even direct other students to him for help, Keith has definitely found his feeling of importance. "They may call I me a geek," he said with confidence, "and I accept that compliment and then correct them. I am a techno-geek thank you very much."

KIDS NEED Y.O.U.

Mentoring and Prevention Services, a component of Youth Opportunities Upheld (Y.O.U., Inc.) is currently seeking volunteers to serve as mentors to work one-on-one with at risk or court-involved youth. A six-month to one-year commitment is needed and training is provided. Have a fun experience while being a positive role model and making a difference in a child's life! For more information please contact Lenore Johnson at (508)755-3620 ext.337.

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The Point considers for publication letters to the editor on any topic of interest to the Fitchburg State College community. All submissions run at the discretion of the Editor-in-Chief and are subject to editing for style and length.

All articles must be typed or legibly handwritten and include a name and phone number in case of questions. All letters in response to an article must be submitted within two days after the article is published.

Announcements should be short, including dates, places, times and a contact person.

The content of any article labeled Opinion does not necessarily represent the views of *The Point*, its staff, or Fitchburg State College.

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Get out of class

James Vigeant

Twenty-five years ago, a high school diploma meant a lot in the job market. Today people worry about how much they can spend on education so they can get ahead in life and still manage the cost of living.

Whether it's for an adult going back to school at night, or parents sending their children to school full time during the day, a college education is costly. At Fitchburg State College, tuition costs \$42.92 per credit for a full time. Massachusetts Resident day student. For an out of state student, that cost jumps to \$293.75 per credit. That comes out to \$100.00 per year for Mass. Resident and \$7050.00 per year for an out of state resident. That does not even include books, fees, room and board, or gas in the case of commuters. Others, who choose to the night classes, pay a cost of \$110.00 per credit, plus fees.

Unfortunately also, the college experience is taking longer than before, most students staying 5 or even 6 years to get a 4-year

degree. The worst of it is that most of these students are forced to take classes that they do not want to or that are just beneath their level of knowledge because they are college requirements. But there is a way around that.

For over 25 years Dr. David Spencer has been administering advanced level exams at Fitchburg State.

These exams including the College-Level Examination Program (CLEP) and the DANTES Subject Standardized Tests (DSSTS) allow

students two testing methods to complete requirements make up failed classes or just get a jump on their general education electives.

The CLEP test, for a cost of \$58.00 per exam, offers several options including six general subject exams and 33 specific subject exams that are worth from three to twelve credits each. That's an entire semester out of

the way with just one exam. The CLEP tests are set up just like the SAT examinations, though some of the introductory writing tests also require an essay. They have four sections and are all multiple-choice. For every correct answer, a point is given, for every incorrect answer, one fourth of a point is subtracted, for every question

skipped, no points are added or subtracted. The D A N T E S exams is a little different. The cost is \$65.00 per exam and DANTES only

offers specific subject exams, but also offers 32 such exams with 31 of which being worth three credits each. The DANTES, like the CLEPs, are multiple choice but they differ in the fact that points are never subtracted. Correct answers are the only ones that affect one's score.

Credits earned from either exam get recoded on a Fitchburg State College transcript as a "P"

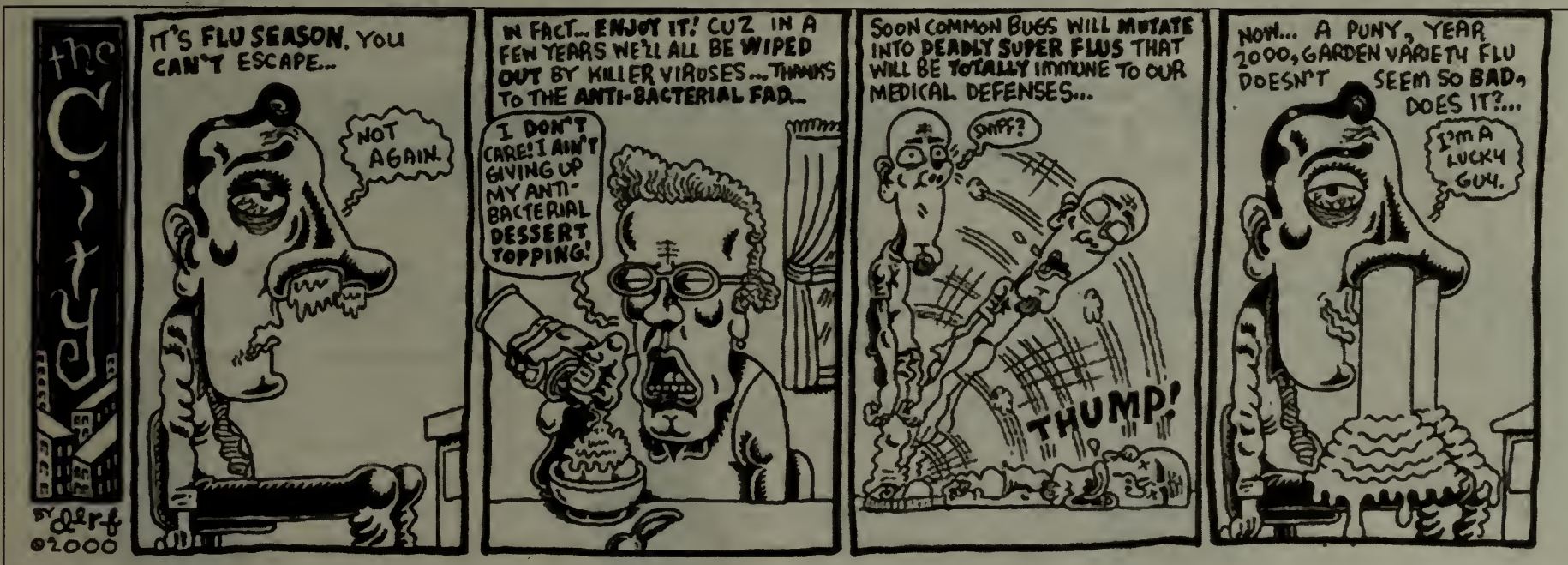
meaning pass. They count as transferred credits and cannot help, nor can they hinder one's GPA.

According to Dr. Spencer, "For the cost it's really a bargain for a three credit course, and for the foreign languages (worth up to 12 credits each), they're even more so the higher you score." Dr. Spencer continued by stating that, "They used to be used as a catch for those in the corporate world. But that hasn't been the case for about 5 years."

Unfortunately there is not much publication about these exams. It is listed on the top 40 questions on the FSC cable channel (number 37), but not many people sit and watch that. The way the majority of student find out about them are through word of mouth. Hopefully this will help change that.

For more information on the CLEP tests or the DANTES exams, please contact Career Services by phone at 978-665-3151 or fax 978-665-3012. Exams are given approximately once a month and require pre-registration.

The CLEP and DANTES tests offer students an alternative to costly tuition.



Bringing people the word...

by Marktavian D. Martin

The brothers of Iota Phi Theta and the beautiful Iota Sweethearts have done it again. On October 7th they hosted a poetry reading in the Underground. The poetry was good and the crowd was live which made the event a complete success.

The Iotas tried something different this year. They made it more like a family gathering by serving food and playing music before the main event began. This set the tone for the night; everyone had a full stomach from the food, relaxed while listening to the music and ready to be entertained. The Iotas had the formula for a true Soul Revival: friends, food, music and poetry.

I must applaud all the poets for sharing their poetry with us. Most people do not realize that whenever a poet shares their poetry with anyone else, they are exposing some of their most private thoughts and feelings. As a listener you must learn to cherish and respect that. I must applaud the crowd on Tuesday night for showing respect and love to all the readers.

Some of the astonishing readers that blessed the microphone that night were: Addonna Agbo, Shawn Bernard, Magdalene Garcia. Danita Potter, Nansia, Ronnette McFarlane, and Agnes. Each reader spoke on a variety of topics such as: love, men, women, drugs, relationships, and admired figures in their lives. A reoccurring topic that seemed to capture the crowds attention was SEX - Naughty! Naughty!

I had a chance to interview Ronnette and Danita, two of the featured poets. I asked them what poetry meant to them. Ronnette said that poetry is the essence of her being. Poetry is a direct replica of issues that she has to confront in her daily life. Poetry speaks for others that do not have a voice. It is a gift from God. God gave her this gift of poetry so that she could do a greater work, in her communities, both locally and globally.

Danita feels that poetry is a way of being able to say what you want without directing your words to who you wrote them for.

Thank you everyone who participated, and big up to the Iotas. One love!

STEP LIVELY



Fitchburg, Mass. - The Capitol Steps, a troupe of Congressional staffers-turned-comedians who travel the country satirizing the very people and places that once employed them, will perform at Fitchburg State on Thursday, Oct. 26, at 8 p.m. in Weston Auditorium.

The Steps perform over 400 shows across the country, covering territory from Portland, Maine, to Portland, Oregon. Since they began, the group has recorded 18 albums, including their latest, "First Lady and the Tramp." They've been featured on three national PBS specials, numerous TV shows, and can be heard four times a year on National Public Radio stations nationwide during their "Politics Takes a Holiday" radio specials.

The Capitol Steps were born in December, 1981, when three staffers for Senator Charles Percy were planning entertainment for a Christmas party. They decided to dig into the headlines of the day, and created song parodies and skits that conveyed a special brand of satirical humor that was as popular in Peoria as it was on Pennsylvania Avenue.

Ronald Reagan was president when the Steps began, so co-founders Elaina Newport, Bill Strauss and Jim Aidala figured that if entertainers could become politicians, then politicians could become entertainers. Since then, the Steps have had more than 4,500 performances in 48 states. The group has 22 cast members, five of whom are on stage for any one show.

Most cast members have worked on Capitol Hill; some for Democrats, some for Republicans. No matter who holds office, there's never a shortage of material. Says Elaina Newport, "Typically the Republicans goof up, and the Democrats party. Then the Democrats goof up and the Republicans party.

That's what we call the two-party system."

Although the Capitol Steps are based in Washington, DC, most of their shows are out-of-town or for out-of-town audiences. Whether it's the National Welding Supply Association, a university audience, high schoolers, or state legislators, people love to laugh at the foibles of public figures like Bill and Hillary Clinton, "Dubya" Bush and Al "Two-By-Four" Gore. In fact, the Capitol Steps have performed for the last four Presidents.

Tickets, \$15 each, are available at the college's box office or by mail order. Tickets will also be available at the door on the evening of the performance. Call (978) 6653347 or (978) 665-3709 for more information.

"Banner" Year

The Banner Project Kickoff will be held in the Science Lecture Hall at 2pm on Tuesday, the 24th of October. All are welcome. There will be an Open House and refreshments served in the Banner Implementation Room (formerly the Dance Studio) in Thompson Hall.



THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

HEY, PARENTS! YOU MAY HAVE READ THAT BARBIE IS RUNNING FOR PRESIDENT THIS YEAR--AND WHAT BETTER WAY TO TEACH YOUR LITTLE GIRL ABOUT THE AMERICAN POLITICAL SYSTEM?

YOU SEE, HONEY, EVEN SOMEONE WITH A SMALL EMPTY HEAD CAN RUN FOR PRESIDENT IN THIS GREAT COUNTRY!

I'VE GOT A RECORD THAT IS CONSERVATIVE AND COMPASSIONATE!

UM--THAT'S GOOD...I GUESS...

OF COURSE, IF YOU REALLY WANT YOUR DAUGHTER TO UNDERSTAND THE POLITICAL PROCESS, YOU'LL ALSO NEED BARBIE'S INDISPENSABLE FRIEND CORPORATE LOBBYIST KEN!

AND SO, BARBIE, BY TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE SOFT MONEY LOOPHOLE, WE CAN FUNNEL VIRTUALLY UNLIMITED FUNDS INTO YOUR CAMPAIGN!

THAT SOUNDS FUN!

AND BARBIE CAN HARDLY BE EXPECTED TO RUN AN EFFECTIVE CAMPAIGN WITHOUT THE OPPOSITION RESEARCH OF POLITICAL CONSULTANT SKIPPER!

OUR POLLING DATA SHOWS THAT IT'S NOT TOO EARLY--TO GO NEGATIVE ON G.I. JOE, BARBIE! HIS EXCESSIVE MILITARISM DOESN'T PLAY WELL WITH SOCCER MOMS!

OKAY, SKIPPER! SAY, YOU WANT TO GO TO THE MALL?

AND IF PRESIDENT BARBIE WINS THE ELECTION, SHE'LL CERTAINLY NEED TO CONSULT WITH HER TERRIFIC NEW FRIEND, TALKING ALAN GREENSPAN--WHOSE RANDOM, ENIGMATIC UTTERANCES WILL PROVE JUST AS ENLIGHTENING AS THOSE OF HIS REAL LIFE COUNTERPART!

--SO STORMY WEATHER MAY LEAD TO SMOOTH SAILING--UNLESS THE DOG BARKS AT MIDNIGHT!

BARBIE DOESN'T UNDERSTAND THAT MAN!

NO ONE DOES, SWEET-HEART...NO ONE DOES...

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Children's Lit comes alive at FSC

Nationally acclaimed young adult writers Norma Fox Mazer and Robert Cormier will visit Fitchburg State College as part of an all-day symposium on young adult fiction, Saturday October 21st.

Joined by Anita Silvey, Vice President and publisher of children's books at Houghton-Mifflin and Dr. Marilyn McCaffrey, an FSC professor, the authors will look at such topics as censorship, literature and film and what today's adolescents are reading.

The event celebrates the 10th anniversary the *Reader's Review*, a free publication written by FSC Students and read by teachers throughout New England.

Cost of the symposium is \$25, \$10 for students. Certificates of attendance are available for Massachusetts educators. To register, call (978) 665-3347.

Nothing personal, but S.O.D. wants you to Kill Yourself

November 14, 2000 sees the release of the semi-anticipated *Kill Yourself - The Movie* from the purveyors of all that is metal, the Stormtroopers of Death, (more affectionately known as S.O.D.) The release is a documentary of the 1999-2000 "Bigger Than The Devil" tour and features a barrage of live concert footage, interviews, and behind the scenes mayhem (including a clip of Marilyn Manson's Twiggy Ramirez reciting Martian dialogue before shooting himself). The cover depicts a spoof of Guns & Roses' Appetite For Destruction cover art S.O.D.- style.

The VHS version will contain 95 minutes of S.O.D. chaos while the DVD contents include a whopping 160 minutes of mass destruction. Additional footage includes the live shows along with video clips, TV and Internet trailers, a must-see S.O.D. slideshow, a product showcase, a very special animated chapter and additional audio tracks. As if that isn't enough to woo the eyes of S.O.D. aficionados across the land, the DVD version also features a small bonus part locked with a 6-digit code. The code will be available through a quiz on a specially designed web-page that will be accessed only from the DVD and will be announced after a certain period of time (i.e. Dec. 24th) at the Nuclear Blast homepage. The first buyer who cracks the access code will win a special prize package!

Screenings of *Kill Yourself - The Movie* will take place in Los Angeles at the Viper Room on November 6th with an additional special screening at The November To Dismember Festival (also in Los Angeles) November 10th and 11th. A third screening will take place at the Trocadero in

Philadelphia on November 13th (one day prior the street date). And finally, a tentative New York City screening where the band is slated to make a special live appearance (date and venue yet to be confirmed).

Featuring Billy Milano, the king of all things boisterous, Anthrax's Scott Ian and Charlie Benante and Danny Lilker of the now defunct Brutal Truth and Nuclear Assault, S.O.D. holds true to their self-patented world of satire while simultaneously yielding some of their most assaulting bouts of heaviness metal has ever known as is evident with the very first viewing moments of *Kill Yourself*. "We're very proud of this Cinematic masterpiece," explained Ian.



GONE HOLLYWOOD

William Shatner (yes, *that* William Shatner) has finally decided how best to honor the memory of his wife, Nerine, whom he discovered drowned at the bottom of his backyard swimming pool in 1999. He is currently producing and directing a dark comedy called "The Shiva Club." Shatner says he was inspired while sitting shiva for his wife (shiva is the Jewish period of mourning). Says Shatner, "The concept just occurred to me: grief can be funny."

SPRING BREAK 2001! CANCUN & BAHAMAS. EAT, DRINK, TRAVEL FOR FREE! CAMPUS REPS WANTED

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AMERICAN LIFE

Dave Anthony of Kent, Washington wants his truck back. Anthony, who proudly exclaims he is "39, going on 15," decided to help a friend who was tearing down his house. He drove his GMC 4x4 to the demolition site, after stopping at the liquor store for a 24-case of beer, and proceeded to knock his friend's garage down...by ramming it with his truck.

Further drinking convinced Anthony that he could collapse the whole building and he drove his truck onto the roof.

The building held, but his truck got stuck. A local towing company had to be brought in to bring the truck, and Anthony, down safely.

When he couldn't pay the \$695 bill presented to him by the tow company, they impounded his truck.

Dave Anthony is suing for its return.

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Horoscopes.....by SID

Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18) You can never be too rich or too thin. OK most people can never be too thin. Here, have a sandwich already.

Pisces (Feb 19 - Mar 20) Howard Hughes had money, fame, power and the respect of his peers yet he died paranoid and alone, lying in his own filth. Puts that failed test into perspective doesn't it.

Aries (Mar 21 - Apr 19) Remember that one girl you always picked on in high school? No? She remembers you. Boy, does she ever. Avoid going out alone this week.

Taurus (April 20 - May 20) Don't get the roast beef. Seriously, stick to fish for the next few days.

Gemini (May 21 - June 21) Luna yoga will help you with the "difficlu-ty" you're having. It will also teach you a valuable skill you can use later in life.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) You will be getting some new clothes this week. Trust your instincts when shopping; lime green will be in next season.

Leo (July 23 - Aug 22). You full Leos will have a full plate this week, don't get too stressed. For those of you on the cusp...get the hell off, we just had them painted.

Virgo (Aug 23 - Sept 22). A major change is in store for Virgos this week. Either you will find a new romance, a new roommate or a new religion. In any case, avoid Baptists.

Libra (Sept 23 - Oct 23). Congratulations! You have recently achieved a personal goal after a long and arduous trial. Too bad it wasn't really worth it.

Scorpio (Oct 24 - Nov 21). Something will happen to you this week. Something that can be related to you couched in terms that might just apply to any number of situations occurring to any number of people.

Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21). Minor car trouble can lead to major financial woes. Remember, there is no such thing as a "gas pill."

Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19). This may not be the time to mention this, but have you spoken to your mother lately?

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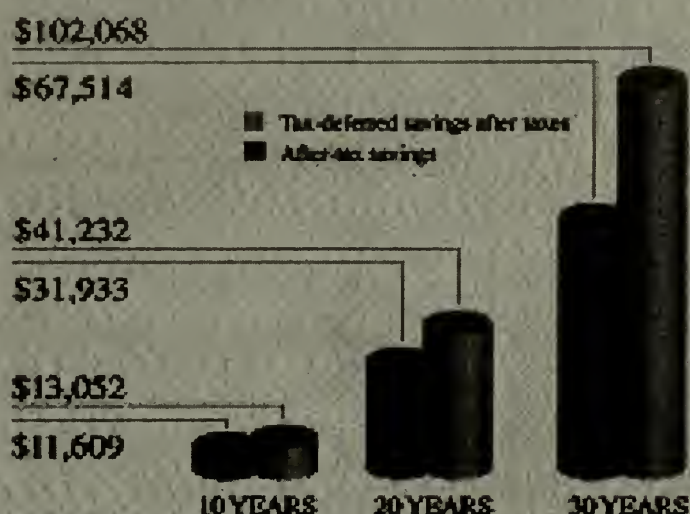
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*Note: Under federal tax law, withdrawals prior to age 59½ may be subject to restrictions, and to a 10% additional tax.

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In this hypothetical example, setting aside \$100 a month in a tax-deferred investment with an 8% return in a 28% tax bracket shows better growth than the same net amount put into a savings account. Total returns and principal value of investments will fluctuate, and yield may vary. The chart above is presented for illustrative purposes only and does not reflect actual performance, or predict future results, of any TIAA-CREF account, or reflect expenses.



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WANT ADS

England - Jason Pitt and Bill Wood of Walsall UK wanted to hire some new staff for thier start-up business. They called the local government-run jobs center to place an ad with hem, but the center refused to run it. They objected to the wording of the ad wherein Pitt and Wood had requested the applicants be "hardworking and enthusiastic."

"They told us 'You csan't put that in your ad, that's discrimination'," Wood said.

When questioned, the Job-centre manager said the ad violated theDisability and Discrimination Act. Only when it was pointed out to him that he was effectively declaring that a disabled person can't be hardworking and enthusiastic *by the Secretary of State*, did the Jobcentre relent and print the ad.

Sweden - In the current tight labor market, it's tough finding employees. This has led the Swedish furniture maker Ikea to try a new approach in help wanted ads: handwritten appeals on the walls of public restrooms.

"After only four days, we had over 60 applicants. That's four or five times what we get from a normal newspaper ad," said Jimmy Ostholm, sokesman for the company. "And it's significantly cheaper, too."

Asked why the bathroom ads were so effective, Ostholm mused, "In the toilet people are more receptive to our mesage."

SOUND & FURY

by Maria Brogna

Self
Gizmodgery
Spongebath Records



A Little Tikes xylophone, a Playschool Busy Guitar and a "Talk To Me Robot" are just a few of the many toys that are used as instruments on Self's fourth album appropriately titled *Gizmodgery*. One may think that this mix of plastic noise makers

and child proof gadgets would create a horrific sound that the human ear would rather not experience. This could not be further from the truth.

This eclectic mix of sounds that may cause a slight bit of jealousy from some of the newer and less original bands that clutter the record stores and airwaves. *Gizmodgery* definitely does not take itself seriously although it could, but we do see the sense of humor Self has with their cover of the once popular Michael McDonald hit "What a Fool Believes." The album alone is worth picking up to hear the brilliance that Self has brought to the piece and in the company of original songs such as "I Am A Little Explosion" and "Trunk Fulla Amps" you will notice that *Gizmodgery* seldom leaves your stereo.

This a brave and daring sort of album that only those who are in the business for the music as opposed to the record sales would be able to create. It probably will not end up on any charts and it surely will never air on MTV, but is that really a bad thing? Bands like this are few and far between these days and should be listened to if given the chance and the knowledge that they are out there and they do exist. Now you know.

On creativity and originality this album gets the highest rating that it can. Self's *Gizmodgery* would be a welcome addition to any music collection and promises to leave the listener satisfied. Honestly, unless one knows that this album is composed entirely with children's toys you may not pick up on it. Though there is a sense of fun present: "Assorted Talking Animals" is listed as an instrument on the album. Conceptually this album stands out above the crowd that has been released this year, showing that if you know how to make music you can do it successfully with anything at all.

Lee Scratch Perry
Techno Party
Beatville Records, LLC

Long before Bob Marley and Jimmy Cliff, Lee Scratch Perry was inventing a sound that had influenced many artists who later found fame in the genre.

Living a story as interesting as the realistic lyrics that he speaks, Perry started selling his music to a producer in the early 60's until he realized he wasn't receiving the credit he deserved. Fed up with being referred to as a "handy-man" by his producer, he left to pursue a career with a different recording studio in 1966. In 1969 he found international fame with *Return of Django* and began to play European tour dates with his back up band, The Upsetters.

Then during the 70's he met up with Bob Marley with whom he created a bond that was not just musical. Some feel that Marley's strongest work was formed during this period and it is well known that even after Bob Marley and the Wailers success became larger than Scratch's own, Marley still returned to Scratch periodically to collaborate on certain works.

Scratch's influence not only shaped bands like The Wailers, but musicians in many different genres credit Scratch as an influence on their playing or writing music. To write the full Lee Scratch Perry story would take too much time and leave no room for the review of his latest release *Techno Party*. The album is a familiar collection of songs from Scratch, and not at all measured or disappointing. It has a mix of modern beats as well as the traditional sound that he made famous.

This is worth listening to even if reggae is not your favorite or preferred musical sound. The album is mesmerizing and the lyrics keep one's attention in a way that this music never has before or since. The man, as he come through in his music, is compelling and honest in what he has to convey from his experience and his aged wisdom. He leaves nothing out and hides from no one. To listen to his words is to see through the eyes of a man who has found peace and feels at ease with himself even though the world around him may have dealt him a losing hand at certain times. He blames no one, he just has something to say.

This album is worth the time it takes to get through the songs. The lyrics alone forced me to give this album a high recommendation and the music has its charm as well. Yes, there are some silly songs on there just to keep the occasional listener happy, but when he writes seriously you can see that the best way to understand the pioneer Lee Scratch Perry is to hear him yourself.

DON'T READ THIS!!!

No, really. Don't read this. It's absolutely nothing more than a waste of your time. There's no insightful comment waiting at the end of it, there's no recursive mind game going on here. I just have no idea as to what to put in this tiny space so just now decided to fill it with meaningless crap. See, it worked.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, October 19

Men's Soccer @ WNEC 3:30pm
Women's Soccer with Elms 4pm
Volleyball @ Keene 6pm

Saturday, October 21

Men's Soccer w/ Bridgewater 5pm
Football with Curry Noon
Women's Soccer @ Bridgewater 3pm
Field Hockey @ Southern Maine 1pm
Volleyball @ Worcester State w/ Anne Marie Noon
Cross Country @ MASCAC Championship @ Westfield TBA

Sunday, October 22

Field Hockey @ UMaine Farmington 11am

Tuesday, October 24

Field Hockey- LEC/MASCAC Alliance Tournament TBA

Air Assault Grounds Falcons

by Michael McGonigle

Saturday October 7, Framingham, MA- After losing four in a row, the Framingham Rams had their backs against the wall. Unfortunately for FSC they turned the tide, squeaking out a 22-19 upset over the visiting Falcons. Playoff possibilities now appear to be slim for Fitchburg, who is 3-2 overall and 2-2 in their division.

The game started on a sour note for Fitchburg, with the ball downed at their own 1 yard line. Sophomore tailback Trevor Wilson took a hand off and was tackled in the backfield for a safety. The Rams then scored on another pass from Callahan with a 56 yard touchdown to Bascom. Answering right back, DeCarolis orchestrated a 10 play, 72 yard drive, capping it with a 10 yard touchdown pass to wide receiver Gene Clemons. After kicker Joe DaVolio's extra point, the score was 9-7 Rams.

The defense came up with another fine play keeping the Falcons within

reach. Junior linebacker Craig Morey intercepted a Callahan pass which set up a 22 yard DaVolio field goal to give the Falcons their first lead of the game in the second quarter, 10-9. Exactly six minutes later, DeCarolis found freshman wide receiver Peter Gunderson for a 7 yard strike. DaVolio's extra point put them up 17-9 at the half.

Getting the two points back from the safety to start the game was crucial and the Rams gave it back on a bad snap to their kicker Rich Wilson who wisely kicked the ball out of the end zone to avoid a Falcon touchdown, 19-9.

In the wake of junior linebacker Scott Cormiers absence, out due to a knee injury in last week's victory over Mass. Maritime, sophomore linebacker Josh Sterner stepped up his play, notching 10 tackles and a sack. The defensive front seven held the Rams rushing efforts to a mere 36 yards on 36 carries. A slew of four other defensive players had 5 tackles each: Redford Salmon,

Sean McGuire, Kevin Murray and Craig Levesque.

The Falcons were on a roll to start the fourth quarter. Scoring 19 unanswered points through the course of the game, the outlook was promising for Fitchburg. Though the Rams only needed the next four minutes to spoil the victory. With no running game for either team, Framingham's own native sophomore quarterback Luke Callahan (20-39 for 277 yards and 3 interceptions) took to the skies connecting on two touchdown passes to win the game.

First he connected on a short 3 yard touchdown to sophomore Abe Bascom, closing the gap 19-15. The drive was cut short when Nino DeCarolis (21 of 40 with 196 yards passing) of Fitchburg threw his only interception of the game at the Rams 13 yard line. The following play on offense handed the Falcons a devastating blow. Callahan connected with sophomore wide receiver Ray Brady for an 87 yard touchdown pass, topping the Falcons pass attack 22-19.

Soccer Stories

by Steven Beck

On Thursday, October 12, a member of the Point Staff finally made it to one of our very own Falcon Men's Soccer games.

The game was against Rivier and from the start it looked as if we were going to get clobbered and with good reason. To that date the Falcons record stood at 2-9-1, far from the glory of the late eighties when the Falcons won the conference title.

In the first half, Rivier scored in the 17th minute. It was the only goal of the half, but the goal wasn't the only place to see the difference in the teams. Rivier team was a team that talked to one another on the field which is how they established ball control and possession for the majority of the time. The Falcons had to be feeling pretty good going into half only being one down when they had been dominated previously.

It only took 7 minutes into the second half for Rivier to put another shot in the back of the net.

Then again only 3 minutes later. From there it was all but over.

The Falcons, however, would not go down without a fight. In the 75th minute Tim Pinto was fouled inside of the 18-yard box, but Tim choked on the gimme penalty shot.

The Falcons' Matt Jackson, did score a goal in the 75th minute to make the final score 3-1.

A Brief Personal Aside

I started playing soccer when I was just nine years old. All the times I played for the next 16 years there was always somebody at the field doing the less-than-glorious job of ball boy.

This person spends 90 minutes running along the sidelines, grabbing the balls that go out of bounds and throwing them back in to the players to keep the game going.

At Fitchburg we have ball people that no one ever thanks. They run down a hill into the thicketed forest to get a ball when they aren't even going to be the ones kicking it.

You don't have to compete to be important to a team.

A very special Letter from the Editor

I just wanted to take a second to say

**I LET THE GOD
DAMNED DOGS
OUT!**

**CAN WE SHUT UP
ABOUT IT NOW?**

Thank you for your time.

James Sposato
Editor-in-Chief